

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a fluoroalkanol comprising:
reacting an alkanol of formula 2 with a perfluoroolefin of formula 3 to produce a
fluoroalkanol of formula 1,

wherein the reaction is carried out while continuously adding a radical initiator and
the perfluoroolefin of formula 3 to the alkanol

$\text{CHR}^1\text{R}^2\text{-OH}$ Formula 2

$\text{CF}_2=\text{CFR}^3$ Formula 3

$\text{H-(CFR}^3\text{CF}_2)_n\text{-CR}^1\text{R}^2\text{-OH}$ Formula 1

wherein R^1 and R^2 is each independently a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-3} alkyl group,

R^3 is a fluorine atom or a C_{1-4} perfluoroalkyl group, and

n is an integer of from 1 to 4, and

the fluoroalkanol comprises a fluoroalkanol compound of formula 1 in an amount of
at least 95%.

Claim 2 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein n is 1.

Claim 3 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the radical initiator is
a dialkyl peroxide.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the
alkanol of formula 2 is methanol or ethanol.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the perfluoroolefin of formula 3 is tetrafluoroethylene or hexafluoropropylene.

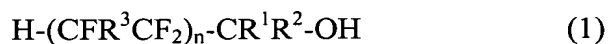
Claim 6 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the reaction is carried out in the absence of any acid binding agent.

Claim 7 (Canceled):

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): An information recording medium having a recording layer capable of writing in and reading out information by a laser, formed on a substrate, which is produced by using a fluoroalkanol obtained by the process as defined in Claim 1.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): A method of producing an information recording medium which is capable of writing in and reading out information by a laser, which comprises the steps of

a) coating a solution of a dye in a solvent on a substrate, said solvent comprising a fluoroalkanol of the formula (1):



wherein:

R^1 and R^2 each independently is hydrogen or C_1 - C_3 alkyl;

R^3 is fluorine or C_1 - C_4 perfluoroalkyl; and n is an integer of from 1 to 4; and

b) drying the solution on said substrate, thereby forming a recording layer containing the dye.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): The method of Claim 9, wherein in said formula (1), n is 1.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): The method of Claim 9, wherein said dye comprises a cyanine dye, phthalocyanine dye, pyrylium dye, thiopyrylium dye, squarilium dye, azulanium dye, indophenol dye, indoaniline dye, triphenylmethane dye, quinone dye, aluminum-based dye, diimonium-based dye or metal complex salt-based dye.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn): The method of Claim 9, wherein said substrate comprises glass, plastic or ceramic.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): The method of Claim 9, which further comprises forming an undercoat layer on said substrate prior to forming said recording layer thereon.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the alkanol of formula 2 is isopropyl alcohol.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the total amount of the perfluoroolefin is from 0.01 to 1.2 mol per mole of the alkanol.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the total amount of the perfluoroolefin is from 0.05 to 0.5 mol per mole of the alkanol.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, carried out in a batch reactor.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the alkanol of formula 2 is charged to a reactor and then the radical initiator and the perfluoroolefin of formula 3 are added at the same time.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein reacting is carried out at a temperature which is a $\pm 30^{\circ}\text{C}$ of the 10 hour half life temperature of the radical initiator.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the reacting is carried out at a pressure of from 0.2 to 1.2 MPa.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein from 15 to 30% of the total amount of the radical initiator is added within one hour and the remaining amount of the radical initiator is added at a constant speed during the remaining reaction time.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The process of Claim 1, wherein the perfluoroolefin is tetrafluoroethylene, the alkanol is methanol and the radical initiator is di-tert-butyl peroxide.

Claim 23 (New): The process of Claim 1, wherein the fluoroalkanol comprises a single fluoroalkanol compound of formula 1 in an amount of at least 95%.

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claims 1-6 and 8-23 are active in the present application. Claims 8-13 are non-elected claims presently withdrawn from prosecution. Claim 7 is canceled. Claim 1 has been amended to require that fluoroalkanol of Formula 1 contains one compound in an amount of 95% or greater based on the total amount of fluoroalkanol. Support for the amendment and new Claim 23 is found in Examples 1-3; page 9, lines 20-21; page 7, lines 23-27 and page 9, lines 9-10. No new matter is believed to have been added by this amendment.